



# **Traumatic Brain Injury Data Collection**

## **Colorado Profile**

## **Data Collection Information**

## **Injury Core Capacity Development**

Colorado is one of 28 states receiving CDC funding to conduct injury surveillance as part of an overall plan for injury control. The general injury data collected for the Core Capacity program examine causes of injury rather than the nature of the injury itself. Colorado is one of four Core states that receive enhanced funding to monitor traumatic brain injury (TBI) risk factors.

Lead agency: Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

Phone: 303-692-2586 Fax: 303-691-7720

Website: www.cdphe.state.co.us

Core State Injury Program: Colorado Profile

#### **State Injury Indicators Data**

Colorado is one of 26 states participating in the Injury Indicators program coordinated by CDC, with input from CSTE and STIPDA. Participating states voluntarily analyze hospitalization and death data to track, monitor, and report on various injuries and risk factors, including TBI. Note that this program uses a restricted definition of TBI.

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Report: State Injury Indicators Report

#### Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Registry

While Colorado does not currently maintain a TBI registry, the state previously received CDC funding for a population-based TBI follow-up project. Some data from this project are still available in a public-use data set. Request a copy of the data from:

Colorado TBI Surveillance Coordinator CDPHE, HPDP – IE – A2 4300 Cherry Creek Drive South Denver, CO 80246-1530

## Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Surveillance

Colorado is one of 12 states receiving CDC funding for ongoing, systematic collection and analysis of TBI data as part of the Traumatic Brain Injury Surveillance Program. Through this program, each participating state characterizes TBI risk factors, incidence, external causes, severity, and short-term outcomes via population-based surveillance of TBI-related hospitalizations and deaths.

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#### **Additional State Contact**

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## **Program Spotlight**

#### Colorado's Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Information Linkage Pilot Project

In 2000–2001, CDC funded a one-year study in Colorado to explore using the Colorado TBI Surveillance Program to identify people hospitalized with TBI and then link them to information about available services in their communities. The study was conducted in three phases.

### • Phase 1 Feasibility Study

The feasibility of the project was studied via qualitative research methods, including phone interviews and focus groups with state agency representatives and people with TBI and/or their family members. The results indicated that study participants supported using the surveillance system to identify and link people with TBI to information about services.

## • Phase 2 Information Linkage Study

In this study, a sample of individuals with TBI were randomly selected from the Colorado TBI Surveillance Program. Each was sent a letter telling them about a helpline (1-800 number) maintained by the Brain Injury Association of Colorado (BIAC) that gave them access to Care Coordinators in their region. As calls came into the helpline, BIAC staff recorded how each caller had learned about the helpline. The letter was second among the ways callers said they had heard about the helpline. During the project period, the number of calls to the helpline increased four-fold overall, and six-fold in rural areas.

#### • Phase 3 Information Linkage Evaluation

The final phase of the Colorado pilot project is ongoing (as of July 2003) and involves evaluating whether people who found out about the helpline through the letter actually got the services they needed.